WORKERS of the WORLD UNITE

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST

No. 191 — With which is incorporated The International Socialist Review for Australasia. — SYDNEY: DECEMBER 20, 1913. — Registered at the General Post Office, Sydney, for transmission by post as a Newspaper. — PRICE, ONE PENNY.

The Passing Show.

A most barbarous fact of to-day is the "labor market."

The very name suggests the buying and selling of human beings.

Those who sell in the labor market are enslaved; those who buy are debased. Both buyers and sellers are brutalised by the barbarous traffic.

Millions of workers are bought and sold daily at market rates in the labor market.

The labor market, like the produce market, is rigged by speculators. The exploiters of labor hire agents to promote immigration and emigration, low wages, and scabbery.

A vast commerce in human life, a sacrifice of manhood and womanhood, a barter of babies, a sale of souls, goes on daily everywhere, where the flag of capitalism flies.

Ignorance alone underlies this system. The capitalists understand this and use their resources to prevent the workers from seeing the light.

Intellectual darkness is essential to industrial slavery. That is why free speech is attacked. That is why Socialists are jailed by the kept agents of capitalists.

Capitalism is based upon ignorance and slavery. Socialism will overthrow it by education and organisation.

The strike in New Zealand and the use of force demonstrate the need of more working class solidarity.

The masters are as solid as a rock. To move them the workers will have to be better educated, better organised, and more class-conscious.

Employers in New Zealand are testing the right of a trade union to vote funds towards the support of the wives and children of strikers. According to the employers the wives and children must be made to suffer most during a strike.

The largest land ballot held in Australia took place at Wyalong a few days ago, when there were 2962 applicants for 35 farms. This, after 20 years of Labor in politics, shows that monopoly is as dttermined as ever to keep the workers off the land.

Joe Cook tells the workers to give more work for their wages, but up to this date he has not advised the employers to give more wages for the work that the workers do.

"In Australia the rise to power and authority of socialist views has been evidenced in the sway of Labor Governments." —Adelaide "Daily Herald." The workers have dropped the substance to grasp the shadow.

In order to free the agricultural laborer and enable him to gain "decent wages" the British Governement has concluded that the landlords must be bought out. Quite a natural conclusion for a parliament of robber landlords to arrive at.

A press cable says that the English press is mournful while the French papers are jubilant. We gather that a Frenchman punched an Englishman and thus caused the press of one country to weep, while the other jubilated. It is a funny world.

The European press is unanimously declaring that Carpentier, the French boxer, "has a brilliant future." Such are your idols, O capitalism.

One of the irrigation farmers, who arrived in Sydney from America lately, had an interesting story to tell. For several years he had been on a 100-acre farm in the Imperial Valley, California, raising lucerne. He paid £5 per acre per annum rent; but the Japanese offered £8, so the American had to leave. The curious part of the story is in the fact that the exiled farmer seemed content in the belief that though he had to quit the landlord had a right to remain. When Socialists get the upper hand they will order things differently and proceed to smoke the landlords out.

The Half-Way Man Faces Both Ways.

"The newly elected member thanked the workers who had placed him at the top of the poll and said that he would endeavor to faithfully represent all classes."—Press reports of Labor Members' speeches at the declaration of the poll in many N.S.W. constituencies.

With apologies to The Milwaukee Leader.

In the course of his address at the cost of living inquiry in Sydney, the employers' representative said the cost of living always rose after a rise in wages. The K.C. was wrong. When the worker finds his sovereign buys less food and clothing he is moved to demand more wages. If he doesn't get more wages, he has suffered a reduction. The workers' wages are always based on what it costs to keep him going as a profit-maker for the other fellow.

The Federal Government is advertising for emmigrants in Norway, Sweden, and Denmark. Cheap land, high wages, abundant employment are the gags used to bait the trap with.

There was a battle-royal at the British Trade Union Congress last week when Larkin attacked the craft union leaders. Larkin wants things done in this life while the union leaders prefer to wait till the resurrection.

"Mr. W. M. Hughes, M.P., whose health is impaired, left Sydney last night for Melbourne in search of rest." "S.M. Herald," (11.12.13). He was overworked in getting the wharfies back to work. Strikebreaking is becoming quite strenuous.

At most shearing sheds outback the squatters have an old wether trained to lead the flock into the sheds to be shorn. On the wharves the same method is employed, and during the recent strike the shipping authorities applied the plan to the wharfies. Billy Hughes was the decoy, and seizing a wharf-laborer by the shoulder with each hand, he dragged them up the gangway bleating "Come on! Come on!" The rest followed like sheep going to be fleeced and the strike was broken.

"We have received letters from correspondents signed "Father of Family" and "Headmaster," dealing with the unsatisfactory condition that prevailed during the field operations of the 5th Infantry Brigade at Liverpool last week. It is stated that the food was insufficient and extraordinarily rough. Serious complaints are made about the supplies and quality of the drinking water f the troops. Inquiries have been made, and the complaints have been found to be fully founded on fact. Men had recourse to wayside pools and streams to slake their thirst, thus laying themselves open to the worst danger of military life, enteric fever and other diseases. Many men who fell out of the line of march suffering from thirst and lack of proper food, reached Liverpool in the last stages of exhaustion."—"S.M. Herald." When the "Herald" admits that the complaints were "fully founded on fact" we may rest assured that the Liverpool camp was a fine illustration of the brutality and folly of the present Conscript system. The incompetence of the officers was only equalled by the patience of the men which was certainly worthy of a better cause.

"The result of the elections is no longer in doubt."—Daily Paper. The result never was. One rotten government always follows another rotten government in N.S.W., as elsewhere, under capitalism.

There are many inquiries afoot into the causes of the present industrial unrest. It is fashionable to pretend ignorance as to the real cause, the class struggle. In the great class struggle the workers have come to the conclusion that it is better to "fight to live, than to work to starve," and this accounts for many strikes in many lands. The leaven of Socialism is working everywhere, and is compelling the workers to see that the future holds something grander and better for them than mere drudgery.

During the N. S. W. elections the Workers developed a tremendous amount of enthusiasm over the fight between Wade and Holman.

Thousands voted class-consciously for Labor. What they failed to see is that Labor is represented by a crowd of little landlords and capitalists who are bent on becoming big ones. Such men must represent capitalist interests as against those of the workers.

Shirts, we are told are made in many large cities at sevenpence a dozen. Prostitutes, criminals, and degenerates are sure to be manufactured at the same rate.

"The rich boast of their wealth, robbery; commanders of armies pride themselves on victories, murder; and those in high places vault their power, violence" —Tolstoy.

"The country has been appealed to, and we dunno where we are" —"The Australian Worker." But we do. You are in the same old rut.

"When I hear the term "Society" used in Australia, I hardly know just what it means. My idea of society is every man, woman, and child in the community"—High Commissioner Reid. Surely every man, woman, and child are not as bad as that.

During the disturbances in Dublin the 5th Lancers in Marlborough barracks protested against being ordered out against the workers. The incident was hushed up: so was a similar protest made by a crack cavalry regiment in Liverpool a little while ago. Then the West Kent regiment reluctantly guarding some scab-manned tram-cars at Inchicore, refused absolutely to go any further. Now the telegraphists in the Birmingham Territorials have submitted a memorial to the commanding officer stating that they will resign if compelled to act as strike-breakers in the event of the post and telegraph employees' ceasing work. From these and other incidents we may conclude that Socialist propaganda in the army is beginning to bear fruit in Britain. What has been done in Britain is possible in Australia, where the conscript system is intensely unpopular among young men and boys. Special attention should be paid to the boy conscripts who hate the system, and often openly revolt.

"The voice of the people has spoken, but no one can tell what it said"—The Australian Worker. Yes, it said "Rats" to both political parties.

"If there is one word that can be applied to Mr. Wade it is sincerity"—"S.M. Herald." Many people apply another word, "leg-irons.

"What use are Labor candidates promises? It is the Labor Conference which decides."—"Sydney Daily Telegraph."

What use are Liberal candidates' promises? It is the press which decides.

A good deal has been heard of the machine during the N.S.W. elections. The machine is certainly a powerful factor, especially the printing "machine" in newspaper offices. The people have the vote but the big papers select and run the candidates.

J. Sellar writes from Basildon, Essex, England: "I have taken a small holding here and hope to get a living from the land. My son Fred has just returned from the West of England where he has been speaking on Conscription in New Zealand and Australia. The meetings were well attended and very successful. I am glad to see you are still fighting Conscription in Australia, and hope your efforts will soon be crowned with success."

In another column we print a letter from Ernst Haeckel, the great German scientist, in refernce to his birthday in February next. We hope that our readers will combine to make Haeckel's birthday a feature of 1914. We are proud to find the "International Socialist" recognised as a force in progressive thought and we hope our readers will share our feeling and see that Haeckel's letter is widely quoted and made known. Haeckel's birthday falls on the same day as our editor's, so we intend to kep that day up with enthusiasm.

The dishonesty of Northern mine-owners has been well illustrated in the manner they have obeyed the recent award governing the price for filling small coal. The award added 4½d. a ton to the price already paid, which is 1s. 1½d., but some of the owners proceeded to pay only 4½d. Mr. Lewis, miners' representative, appealed to the Chairman of the Board, and presented the tickets of miners who had been paid 4½d. The Chairman said he had no hesitation in saying that this was an addition to the price already paid.

The committee appointed to enquire into the Melbourne housing question examined Constable Sharp who appears to be a plain blunt man who is given to finding the truth and telling it. Among other things Sharp said:

"Some of the houses in Pelham-place were rat and vermin infested."

The Chairman wanted to know who owned such disgraceful hovels, and, like a bolt from the blue, came the answer: "Councillor Levers, and I can honestly say that he owns absolutely the worst houses in Carlton. He has places in Bouverie-street in which I would not think of putting a fowl or an animal, before they were whitewashed. The Levers family owns 100 houses in the South end of Carlton, and these are all in a lesser or greater state of decay."

The Committee looked astonished but so far there doesn't appear to be any effective protest from the Committee or Municipal Councillors against tthe conduct of Levers. Now, if Levers had refused to toast the King, as Councillor Webber did, we should hear other councillors repudiating his sentiments. Magistrates would refuse to sit with him and the press would be bitter in its criticism of his conduct. But when he only draws rents from rat and vermin infested slums, and when he only contributes to infant mortality by living on the labor of those who are compelled to live in his dirty and dilapidated hovels, why, nothing is said of it. Other councillors and Members of Parliament do the same and they, like Brutus, "are all honorable men."

"Master, I marvel how the fishes live in the sea,
Why as men do on land; the great ones eat up the little ones." —Shakespeare.

National Library of Australia http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page12366994

The International Socialist

Journal of Revolutionary Socialism and Industrial Unionism.

Owned and controlled by the International Socialists.

Subscription: Australia, 4s per year, 1s per quarter. Postage added to other countries.

O. W. JORGENSEN, Manager.

Office: 115 GOULBURN STREET, SYDNEY.

A Blue Mark through this paragraph indicates that YOUR SUBSCRIPTION WILL EXPIRE WITH NEXT ISSUE.

A Red Mark indicates that your Subscription must be renewed AT ONCE, if you desire the delivery of the paper to continue.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Contributors writing for publication should write in ink, on one side of the paper only, and with a fair space at the sides and between the words and lines. Leave plenty of room for editing.

Write on paper not larger than letter-paper, and thin enough to avoid getting us fined for over-weight.

Mark the package "Press Matter Only," and address it "To the Editor."

Write briefly and clearly, as long and undecipherable articles stand no chance of publication.

Do not send business communications to the Editor, or literary matter to the Manager. To do so only causes confusion and delay.

If your article is not published, do not conclude that it is because it is of no merit, for it may be simply owing to the fact that it is not in accordance with the above rules. Where possible, articles of importance should be type-written.

Within the next 25 years practically all the fortunes of our rich, probably three-fourths of all the nation's wealth will pass by inheritance to men and women who have played about the same part in its production as have the inhabitants of Mars.
—Richardson.

The Scab Cocky.

He Dislikes His Reward.

The New Zealand Cocky Disillusioned.

The New Zealand cockies who so light-heartedly rallied to the rescue of the employers of Wellington and Auckland, and who wielded the bludgeon so brutally in the streets, have been finding that things were not quite as they had been led to believe they were.

The change from town to city—on good pay—promised much to those whose drab life leads to varied longings, but the promise was belied by actual experience. When the cocky got to town everything seemed O.K. He found himself described as the "peace-maker." He was photographed on horse-back, with his truncheon in his hand, for all the illustrated papers. He read miles of buncome in all the employers' papers, and felt himself to be the only effective barrier between a horde of hungry, red-eyed, revolutionary firebrands, and a suffering, innocent community threatened with wholesale and needless starvation.

The cocky enjoyed his new eminence and importance. He enjoyed it so much that he didn't mind minor inconveniences. He slept in the open or in old sheds on straw like an animal, and he pretended to enjoy food which he would hesitate to give his animals at home on the farm. He looked so good in the illustrated papers that for a time he hadn't the heart to injure or question the charming illusion.

Presently, however, the adventure began to pall. It was alright so long as he only had to sit on his horse and do a parade in the streets, but presently he was asked to shovel coal and handle heavy and bulky goods. He found that the more of this work he did, the more the employers found for him to do. The wharf work grew plentiful, while the wages and the tucker remained stationary. Discontent was born amongst the piles of merchandise as rapidly as vermin are born in filth, and the deep growl of the cocky began to be heard along the wharves and in the camp. He growled about the work, the tucker, and the general treatment he was receiving, but the employers' government cocked a deaf ear—it was already costing too much. What he was getting was silently but firmly believed to be all that a scab was worth. It was good enough for him, and the job he was employed on.

But the cocky when he growls cannot be put off with silence. He has been so used to being petted by rulers who hold a mortgage on his land that he wanted something definite and couldn't put up with mere deafness. Then he was told that the treatment was altogether too good for him and much better than he deserved. In fact, some of the employing firms proposed to charge him for his board and lodging. This was the last straw, and the cocky rose in wrath and wrote uncomplimentary things to the strikers' papers about the employers and the government.

The cocky went home to find his work behind, his cheap labor gone into the cities to work on the wharves, and Mrs. Cocky, "gathering her brows like gathering storm, nursing her wrath to keep it warm" for a man who had "done his block" at the instance of a "lot" of city sharpers and political bounders.

The N.S.W. State Elections.

The N.S.W. elections are practically over, and the Labor Party has been victorious.

So far as the Socialist vote is concerned, we know what the position is there, and it is eminently satisfactory. We know that in each of the constituencies in and around Sydney there are a hundred or two who are with Socialism to the finish. The number all told must be a respectable one, and when we reflect that they are men and women who are absolutely class-conscious and sufficiently aware of the true position of our class to be unswayed by other parties, that in fact they are the most intellectual and well-informed of the working class, we can rest safe in the belief that the cause in the future will progress in a satisfactory manner.

Our speakers throughout the campaign did splendid work in exposing the old parties and explaining their anti-working class legislation. They asked for no votes from thoses who were not with us. They spent no money in bribery of voters. No whisky and cigars were used in the campaign, and they told the truth and nothing but the truth. Our speakers were listened to with respect and the "International" was rushed by those who were inquiring into Socialism.

As a result of our propaganda, the candidates of other parties were asked questions founded in Marxian economics and it was amusing to note some of the answers. Altogether we have reason to be satisfied with the results achieved. Education in Socialist economics is more widespread, and discontent with the existing system has been stirred up in quarters where it was dormant. Therefore, let us go on with the work with redoubled energy and increased hope.

To all who voted with us, we say keep your propaganda going. Get into the firing line by joining the party and taking part in the organisation of the workers.

Haeckel's Birthday.

A Letter from the great Scientist.

To my Friends, Pupils, and Disciples,

I have from several sides been informed that a number of my friends, pupils, and disciples intend to celebrate my 80th birthday on the 16th February, 1914, by presenting me with gifts about the form and nature of which different proposals have been made. Having repeatedly been honoured on former occasions by such gifts, I beg to abstain this time from all personal donations, and to convey the amount of the means, destined for this purpose, to a foundation, which I should be glad to put to the disposal of the German Monists' Union. The wonderful development, which this modern Union of culture has attained since its foundation 7 years ago, the high importance which it has acquired for the promotion of a free and rational conception of life as well as for its practical application to a conduct of life of superior morals render its financial support by ampler means most desirable. The intended new "Ernst Haeckel Fund for Monism" shall incessantly further this work of culture of the free thought on the positive basis of natural science and furnish the necessary means to carry practically on its numerous important tasks. I anticipate my heartiest thanks to all my friends and comrades, who, by participation, will support the work of my long life.

On the first International Monists' Congress, which took place in September 1911 in Hamburg, and which was such a splendid success, also because foreign countries took so numerously part in it,—it became the principal aim to extend the German Monists' Union, and to make it an International Union. This Universal Monists' Union, representing an immense promotion of our high tasks of culture by uniting the free-thinkers of all countries, will be the more able to prove its importance practically, the more liberal also my friends abroad in all the continents will partake of the gifts for the new foundation.

ERNST HAECKEL.

Jena, October 12th, 1913.

A number of good people in Sydney and Melbourne have declared "war on vice." What they fail to see is that nothing can be accomplished until society decides to make war on the cause of vice. It should need no argument to demonstrate this, yet, as soon as we attempt to do that a cry is raised of "red-raggers!" and a stampede occurs.

Push "The International Socialist." Get subscribers.

Socialist Unity.

Railsitters in the Movement.

Unity of Marxian Socialists Desirable.

J. R. Wilson.

Socialist propaganda is the need of the hour, that is education to-wards revolution, in other words a convincing of our class, that only by their taking control of the land, the agencies of production and distribution, and their controlling same in their own interests, can the bread and butter question be solved, and the class struggle terminated.

This is without a doubt being realised by an ever increasing number of our class, as witness the growing hostility being shown the Bogus Labor Party, and all other political parties standing for capitalism, wage-slavery and exploitation.

As the line of demarcation is more clearly drawn between the growing forces of Socialism and Capitalism the various Capitalist parties will be driven into one common camp, and the issue made clearer.

This taking place here in Australia as in other countries of the world, it is only fitting there should be talk of unity of socialist forces, of one united Marxian Socialist Party, pledged and working unceasingly towards the goal Socialism.

Of course unity at any price cannot be countenanced, it would simply mean disaster and death should such take place, but unity between such educational and political parties of Socialism, such as the S.L.P. and the A.S.P. is not merely desirable, but necessary, because as both parties stand at present we are simply duplicating each others work, and making the task of maintaining an efficient press hard to bear by the general membership of both organisations.

But it is of the situation in Victoria that I desire to speak, and to unattached socialists that I desire to appeal, for although wages are smaller here than in any other state in the Commonwealth, the amount of female labor employed greater, and child labor also, Victoria lags behind from the standpoint of effective educational work done, and being done.

As in other states we are either blessed or cursed with a host of parties, capitalist and otherwise, the chief of which are the Liberal Party, Labor Party, Victorian Socialist Party, Socialist Labor Party and Australasian Socialist Party.

As both the Labor and the Liberal parties stand for capitalism, so far as the present discussion is concerned they can be ruled out of court, which confines discussion as to unity of forces to three parties viz., V.S.P., A.S.P. and S.L.P.

As to the A.S.P. and S.L.P., whatever differences there may have been in the past, none of those differences can now be said to exist, the endorsement of the Detroit I.W.W. by the various branches of the A.S.P., having brought both organisations into line with one another, in this, as in every other state, thereby making unity, in this as in other states only a question of time, and a matter for adjustment by representatives from the headquarters of both organisations.

As to the V.S.P., be it understood, Melbourne branch of the A.S.P has no intention of making overtures for unity with the party referred to, that is a matter to be arranged per medium of headquarters.

But since there is a likelihood of unity being discussed with the V.S.P. a word as regards this concern may not be out of place.

Socialist unity, as has been so often said, is desirable, but the mere fact that an organisation labels itself socialist, is no reason why steps should be taken to forthwith arrange for amalgamation of forces, without giving due consideration to the general attitude of such an organisation both politically and industrially; and that is just where the trouble commences so far as the V.S.P. is concerned.

If the V.S.P. is out for socialism, why, the support given from time to time, to the anti-Socialist, imperialist, empirebuilding, militarist, Labor Party, why such screeds in its official organ, such as Cohen for the Council, why the permission given to military maniacs to use the columns of their paper to boost conscription, and why is it that the pedigree of a snob, and military nincompoop like General Sir Beauchamp Duff, is gleefully announced, as if the intelligent working class cared a damn, about his pedigree and military career. Why! Why! Why!

But that is not even the worst, traitors to the socialist movement even receive publicity in their columns, and it is even gleefully announced of such an individual, that he is on the primrose path of Billy Watt.

Again Why, Why, Why.

And why is it that their official organ contains much that has nothing to do with socialism, and also much that is directly opposed to socialism, whilst the same can be said of the lectures delivered during the past twelve months at the Gaiety Theatre. Echo answers why!

The plain fact of the matter is, that despite the fact that, those who compose the V.S.P. have labeled themselves socialist, they are not socialist at all, hence the reason. Many of their members are members of the anti-Socialist P.L.C., that many support militarism, that others advocate utopian co-operative schemes, and generally speaking chase every will-o'-the-wisp in the realm of philosophy, and by doing so, and posing as socialists, bring discredit upon the socialist movemen, and make confusion worse confounded.

Truly unity with such a hybrid concern is out of the question.

But in Melbourne there are many unattached socialists, unattached for many reasons, reasons too numerous to mention, and which it would in any case be largely a waste of space to discuss in our paper, and a waste of time on the writer's part to deal with it.

To those socialists I again appeal as before, and the appeal is, join the movement, help to strengthen it, delay no longer, a united socialist movement is about to be realised now's the day and now's the hour.

Of course, rail-sitters will find excuses, and each rail-sitter will have a different argument to justify his being a rail-sitter, and time-server.

The rail-sitter with his precious vote, and no sense, will argue thusly to quote A. M. Stirton.

I am waiting, only waiting
Till the dangers past and gone,
My eye is on your movement,
And I'll join you later on.
But to lose my vote at present,
It would surely be a sin,
So I'll vote for Socialism when
I see you're sure to win.

The snob rail--sitter thusly:—

You should get a better element
At once to take the stand,
You should seek the wealthy classes
And get them to take a hand,
When you do, the men like I am
Will be also coming in,
As we do in every movement,
When we're sure its going to win.

And all rail-sitters in chorus:—

So I'm waiting, only waiting,
Till the dangers past and gone,
Only waiting till the movement
Is a little larger grown;
Then I'm coming to the rescue.
At the dawning of the day,
And I'll shout Hurrah! for Socialism,
When the mists have cleared away.

Comrades unattached, join, be one of us, there is work to do, for socialism is the hope of the world.

THE LABOR DAILY LEVY.

The Editor "The International Socialist."

Sir,—I have been directed by the Anti-Coercion and Political Freedom League, to request publicity for the objects of the League, which are to resist and fight against the compulsory enforcement of levies by trades unions upon those who on principle are opposed to being coerced into paying levies for the proposed Labor daily paper. The Railway Workers' Association have instituted proceedings in the Industrial Court against two members for the recovery of the levy; the case will be heard next Friday, Dec. 12th, and whatever may be the decision an appeal will be lodged by either party to the suit, to test the same in the higher courts. As funds are urgently necessary to fight the case in the Law Courts, and Socialists and other lovers of political liberty are vitally interested in the principles at stake, the League would be grateful if you would open a subscription list in your paper for the legal defence fund.—Yours fraternally.

GEORGE WAITE, Hon. Sec.

(We shall be glad to receive subscriptions in aid of the above and forward same to the Committee.—Ed.)

Disguise it as we may, the government of mankind is always and everywhere essentially aristocratic. No juggling with political machinery can evade this law of nature. However it may seem to lead, the dull-witted majority in the end follows a keen-witted minority. That is its salvation and the secret of progress. The higher human intelligence sways the lower, just as the intelligence of man gives him the mastery over the brutes. I do not mean that the ultimate direction of society rests with its nominal governors, with its kings its statesmen, its legislators. The true rulers of men are the thinkers who advance knowledge; for just as it is through his superior knowledge, not through his superior strength, that man bears rule over the rest of the animal creation, so among men themselves it is knowledge which in the long run directs and controls the forces of society. Thus the discoverers of new truths are the real though uncrowned and unsceptred kings of mankind; monarchs, statesmen, and law-givers are but their ministers, who sooner or later do their bidding by carrying out the ideas of these master-minds.—Prof. J. G. Frazer, "Scope of Social Anthropology."

When you have read this paper hand it to a friend.

National Library of Australia http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page12366995

Political Laborism.

Its Mythical Chararacteristics.

Its Spiritual relationship with the tale of Jesus Christ.

By Ajax.

The truth is noble and sweet; the truth can deliver you from evil. There is no saviour in the world except the truth.
—Buddhist Text.

The great '91 maritime strike made the Australian workers think. They began to see that there was something radically wrong. Dimly conscious of their wrongs the ignorant naturally rushed along the line of least resistance. The soil being conducive to the birth of the Labour party. This party was not based on scientific lines, and contained so many heterogenious elements that its possibilities of emancipating the workers were vague, nevertheless most of its leaders meant well and tried to improve the position of the slaves. Even this crude attempt to educate the great unwashed to higher ideals proved too great a strain on their intelligence, most of them were evidently too dense to assimillate new ideas.

Possibly the Holy Ghost was amongst them!

Like early Christians laborites had some ideas of communism, and were a step in advance of other parties. In the same sense that Martin Luther cleared away a little superstition and paved the way for rationalism, so the Labour party, despite the ignorance and opportunism of its leaders is manuring the soil for the growth of Socialism. At the basis it is a question of the physchology of the mass.

Allowing for time and place, the story of the Exodus of Isaelites from Egypt, following on a brick strike shows similar features. Like the Idolatrous Israelites the deluded unionists have wandered for years in the wilderness of wowserism and political superstition. McGowen, the dunnekin politician, being only mortal, could not send Manna down from heaven to feed the starving strikers, but he sent Judge Heydon to garnishee their wages. The McGowenite and Mosaic law are equally harsh. One would expect a party that preaches fairness to improve on Moses.

This question of equity is peculiar to Laborism. Politicians, like priests, attempt to create a new value—fairness. Thus we have Fair Rent Bills (fair robbery) special boards to fairly adjust differences and twaddle about "A fair day's work for a fair day's wage." In practice we find that politicians raise their own salaries without consulting the god "fairness," while the same Government is dismissing workers because the Treasury is empty. According to the Arbitration law, passed by politicians who are lionized at Eight-hour festivities, transport men are fined because they struck against excessive hours. Behold how ministers who love the workers establish a new standard of fairness! Of course one is well aware that the slaves don't mind a few hours a week more or less—'tis but a trifle, the great thing is to put politicians (who if Hansard is correct, can't even control themselves in public much less essay the difficult task of legislating for others) into power. Obedient to this stupid idea, trade unionists who recently passed a motion for a "six hour day," rescinded the resolution immediately caucus men rushed down to the Trades Hall and explained that such a motion might lose some farmers votes for politicians. It is for this that unionists have spent so much time and money. They sacrifice all for votes!

What has this party, which climbed to power to the clank of Bowling's chains, done to justify this sacrifice?

The wowseristic Sunday laws, condemned by Laborites when in opposition, are now upheld by the ministry. This is decidedly Christian. Indeed McGowenites have gone one better and passed the Bursaries Bill. This retrogressive measure is a bastard abortion, born of the unholy liason of clerical greed, and political lust. It is in fact an insidious attempt to hand the children over to the care of ghostly confessors so that they may be mentally poisoned. A criminal attempt to murder the intellect of the helpless child. The late Cardinal Moran (who presumably along with Dil Macky now sleeps in the arms of Jesus) was the father of conscription, an attempt to make the child a hired assassin (Both spiritual efforts worthy of Christian Labourites.) Here again the Labour party shows itself the tool of the master class. Its efforts to regulate industry, and Labor shows clearly that it is tied to the apron strings of the "Chamber of Manufactures," though it carries on a mock flirtation with the Trades Hall, when votes and money are needed.

All the Ministry's moves emphasise that it toadies to various cliques of capitalists at the expense of the people.

Yet the Laborite voter with a childish faith, born of credulity and ignorance, fondly imagines that this heterogenious crew of [illegible]-parsons, lawyers, manufacturers, landlords, secretaries, and what not labelled Labour, who have given to the world a fearful exhibition of emblazoned opportunism and political betrayal can really emancipate him. The theory is ridiculous. All this moving of motions, petitioning poiticians, tinkering with laws, altering rules and constitutions, red-tape, and muddledom on the part of "lead kindly lighters" reminds one forcibly of the fierce wrangles that took place at ecclesiastical councils over doctrine and dogma. Like christians it is necessary that Labourites indulge in a heresy hunt. Quite a refreshing change from the usual routine! It is essential that we have a platform full of planks which are economically and scientifically impossible. Of course the planks are for the wooden-headed, and all who refuse to subscribe to the Labour platform are politically damned.

Already political opportunists, posing as Messiahs, are on the hustlings to catch votes Doubtless the landless and brainless workers will rise to the Labour bait, and like kittens fight over bits of paper.

. . . . . .

There is some excuse for the Christian. In the first place he is up against the priest, a most dangerous charlatan. Secondly he occasionally goes to church, and at least makes a pretence of putting his creed into practice.

With them "the spirit is willing, tho' the flesh is weak," but with the brainless voter the spirit is not willing. In fact it is with difficulty he drags himself to the poll once every three years to sign a paper to the effect that he is an ass—a political idiot—who perforce must delegate his thinking to somebody else!

To sum up political Laborism, Christianity rose amongst the slave class. Both manifest similar weakness. Each has failed ignominiously and degenerated into a means of oppression. They are essentially the philosophy of the herd and bear eloquent testimony of the brainless self-deluded rabble which they cater for. Both are revised versions of the old story of "The false shepherd and their silly sheep.

As education advances they will decay and die the grave of superstition. The date of their burial will be the day a sufficient number of people come to themselves and refuse to support these absurdities. Why number they the ground? Only on and through ignorance can they exist. When the light of reason shall prevail against the fog of Laborism, and the mists of Christianity then shall we be able to say:—

Oh, christian priest where is thy sting?
Oh, Labour politician where is thy victory?

"THE POOR YE HAVE ALWAYS WITH YOU."

"Blessed are the Poor."

Many churchmen attack Socialism directly. Why they do so is in many cases a mystery, but in others the rewards given by capitalism are illuminating. The following wills of a few who have been handsomely rewarded speak for themselves.

	£
Rev. T. G. Beaumont .. .. "Sunday Times," 31st May, 1908.	217,010
Rev. Leigh Jones .. .. "The Freethinker," Aug. 16, 1908.	30,650
Rev. Edmund Bowers....	41,027
Rev. H. Beautoy Wilder	52,141
Rev. Robert Eyton .. .. "Australian Star," Jan. 12, 1909.	15,000
Father John .. .. "S. M. Herald," Jan. 15, 1909.	200,000
Mrs. Potter, widow of Bishop Potter, "S.M. Herald," March 9, 1909.	100,000
Rev. Patrick Slattery .. .. "S.M. Herald," April 6, 1909.	3,849
Rev. Walter Howe .. .. "Int. Socialist Review," June 5, 1909.	29,994
Rev. Thos. Holme .. .. "S.M. Herald," June 23, 1909.	10,000
Rev. Dr. Smith, Sydney .. .. "S.M. Herald," Oct. 8, 1909.	16,013
Rev. George Caprou .. .. "I.S. Review," Oct. 30, 1909.	25,186
Rev. Bernard Robert Wilson .. .. .. "S.M. Herald," Nov. 18, 1909.	43,363
Bishop Barry.. .. .. "S.M. Herald," May 4, 1910.	19,208
Bishop Goe .. .. "S.M. Herald," Nov. 26, 1910.	10,117
Rev. Robert Frew, D.D. .. .. "Newsletter," March 18, 1911.	53,078
Rev. William Edward White, Armidale "The Sun," Nov. 17, 1913.	29,072

The following are 12 out of a list compiled by "Reynolds," March 25, 1906:—

Rev. John H. Whitely	212,182
Archbishop Eyre (Glasgow)	202,855
Rev. Henry Latham	112,089
Rev. W. Manners-Sutton	100,683
Rev. Chas. T. Royds	117,227
Rev. Henry Twells	85,289
Canon Haygarth	100,494
Rev. William Henry Cooper	106,607
Rev. Thomas Ord	65,328
Rev. James Spurgeon..	36,378
Rev. Dr. Talmage	60,000
Rev. Dr. Parker	25,000

For several years up to 1899 the amount of money willed by the clergy of the United Kingdom totalled £15,626,000.

From 1899 to 1903 sixty-nine clergymen willed £18,030,215.

"Yea, they are greedy dogs, which can never have enough."—Isaiah.

"Feed the flock of God, taking the oversight not for filthy lucre's sake."—1st Peter.

An Open Letter.

TO MR. APPEL.

Early in June, of the present year, the secretary of the Brisbane Branch of the Australasian Socialist Party, acting under instructions from the organisation, wrote the Commissioner of Police applying for permission to hold an open air meeting on the corner of Alice and Edward streets, on Sunday afternoon, the 8th of June. This application was made in accordance with the provisions of the Traffic Reulations, made by order in Council, dated 15th June, 1911, in pursuance of the powers vested therein by The Traffic Acts 1905-1910.

Some days after the date for which permission was asked, a reply was received intimating to the secretary of the Branch, that the Commissioner did not approve of other than religious meetings by representatives of accredited religious bodies being held upon a Sunday.

I want you to clearly understand, Mr. Appel, that we did not request Police Commissioner Cahill to either approve or disapprove of Socialist propaganda. Indeed, there would be something entirely wrong with the Socialist Party of Brisbane if it included in its ranks men of the calibre of Mr. Cahill, at whose instigation peaceable citizens were bludgeoned and battoned on Black Friday.

Mr. Cahill was written to in his capacity as a public servant. He was approached in that capacity, and he replied in his iclivictual personal capacity as a narrow-minded ignorant bigot.

I will direct your attention to the Constitution. You have read sufficient of history, I presume, to remember how in the thirteenth century the people forced a reluctant sovereign to sign Magna Charta. You must know that that great Charter forms the basic principle of the people's rights in the British Constitution. It declares for the maximum amount of liberty for the individual.

The State, Mr. Appel, is, or is supposed to be, secular. What right has a police commissioner, your subordinate, to discriminate between different sections of the community?

Furthermore, it is illegal for a public official to exercise his public office to assist one section of the community, and to suppress another.

This class of action is corrupt, and in so far as your subordinate, police commissioner Cahill, has discriminated between the religious and the non-religious sections of the community, he has administered his office corruptly. He is guilty of the worst forms of bribery and corruption—mental bribery and corruption.

I will prove it further. All men, religious and atheistic, are subject to the same laws in a secular State. Each pay taxes according to the same scale. The roads and other public works are paid for out of the public purse.

The roads and public works so made are supposed to be the common property of the people. Now, Mr Cahill is allured by a certain very small sect of the community, who praise him for bludgering strikers and suppressing advanced scientific knowledge. For this miserable petty praise he sells his public trust. Mr. Cahill's private opinions are not law. If they were his reply to our secretary would be justified. So far no legal reason has been brought forward for not issuing permits. Mr. Cahill, I repeat, is guilty of wilful corruption and bribery. He has prostituted justice and sold men's liberty for lip praise.

Now, Mr. Appel, you are none the less to blame. You are an elected representative of the people, and you are the public minister in charge of this department. The Traffic Act of 1905-10, clause 5, distinctly states that this Act shall be administered by the Commissioner of Police and members of the police force, subject to the Minister.

In consideration of this fact the secretary of the party sought an interview with you. You refused to see him. You stated that you left the matter entirely in the hands of the Commissioner.

If such was the case, you neglected your public duties. You, yourself, said in the House, that a place should be set apart for these people to address meetings. You thereby recognised an injustice. But you did not instruct the Commissioner to remedy it. You hindered justice. You endorsed, by your inaction, his corruption. In so far as you have hindered and delayed justice you are guilty of corruption. Let me place the facts before you. As a result of your inaction the following men have been incarcerated within the jail walls for the undermentioned periods. You are responsible. You are guilty. Upon your head lies all the blame:—

Date.	Name.	Days.
Sept. 7	A. G. Brown	30
14	Percy Mandeno	14
21	Albert Jenkins	30
28	G. C. Thompson	31
28	J. J. O'Brien	30
Oct. 5	H. Rudolph	1
12	W. Gray	31
19	H. Rudolph	31
26	G. Reith	42
Nov. 2	G. Henry	31
16	A. Rees	42
23	J. Quinton	42
30	D. Johnson	42
	Gordon Brown	61
	Percy Mandeno	61
	Total	519

Besides which W. Jackson and James Gilligan were each fined £5.

Mr. Appel you alone are responsible for this. These men have been thrown amongst the worst of criminals, murderers, rapers, and others, for no crime at all; 519 days of the human lives of young men have been sacrificed and you are to blame.

You have thus far gone and further. G. C. Thompson was sent to Goodna Asylum because he refused to eat hominy at Boggo Road. He was charged with suicidal mania for refusing to eat that hellish pig food. He has been thrown amongst lunatics and detained in an asylum. If the environment sends him really mad, remember you are to blame. Finally, R. M. Rose is now on hunger strike. For nine days he has touched nothing. He is a physical wreck. If he is not released immediately he will die.

Mr. Appel, will you stain your hands with bloody murder? Remember if he dies the people of Australia shall know the criminal.

I hear rumours that he is to be forcibly fed If he is. If his constitution be further wrecked. If you make of him an imbecile. If you so add torture to his death. Beware! Mr. Appel, Beware! I shall point out a murderer from every platform on which I stand, and that murderer will be you.

Mr. Appel, in conclusion, let me ask you again, "Will you stain your hands with murder?"

A. G. BROWN.

TOWNSVILLE AND FREE SPEECH.

I arrived here on Nov. 22, and in order to keep a promise made to the Brisbane Comrades, that I would keep my end up here, I immediately on my arrival applied for a permit to hold a meeting.

Within two hours after my arrival I inviewed the Inspector of Police, and asked to be allowed to address a meeting that same evening on Socialism.

He advised me to put in a written application that day and abandon the idea of holding a meeting that evening.

I put in the application for the following Sunday evening for permission to speak on the "Evolution of Man," and on the following Friday on "Socialism." I again interviewed the Inspector, but he flatly refused me a permit

After an argument regarding Sunday or week-night meetings, he said he had decided that I should not be allowed to speak on the streets of Townsville at any time.

He said that a man named Jackson had been fined £5 or a month's jail in Brisbane for speaking without a permit, etc., etc. I could get no further satisfaction from him, so quitted, and proceeded to the A.W.U. rooms and told the members my position. They were holding their bi-weekly meeting, and I explained to them how they could use their economic power and apply for a permit.

The A.W.U. applied for a permit and gave the names of three speakers. In reply, they received a flat refusal.

The Inspector looked like beating the band, but I rented a vacant lot near the best corner of the city. I paid 10/- for it, and 4/- for advertising in the local paper, and posted notices up at the Trades Hall, the hotels, and other likely places where the slaves would see them. I borrowed box, lamps, etc., and had a bumper meeting which I entertained from 7.45 till 9.20. I almost forgot the collection, but at the close of the meeting I sent round the hat and appealed for assistance on behalf of the Free Speech Fighters in Brisbane, and received £1 3s. 4d., which was duly posted to Brisbane Branch on the following morning.

The action of the police should let the workers see what their exploiters are up to. The police are only acting under orders in doing the dirty work of stifling free speech. They have no interest in interfering so long as meetings are orderly, but they are being used by unscrupulous parasites who shelter behind the police and use them to keep the workers in ignorance of what they are doing.

Workers of Townsville, study Socialism, and stick up for free speech.

W. JACKSON.

A FEW REMEDIES.

"The remedy for slavery is freedom. The remedy for sweating is a refusal to be sweated. The remedy for lying is truth; for oppression, resistance. The remedy for selfishness is unselfishness. The remedy for greed and grasp, and snobbery and swindling, and sweating, and religious cant, and nearly all the cuts under which the people groan is, in one word, Socialism.—"Clarion."

The Commonwealth Statistician states that during the quarter, April to June, there were 60 industrial disputes compared with 49 during the preceding quarter. The class struggle is becoming increasingly acute.

National Library of Australia http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page12366996

Politics and Parliament.

The "International" of November 22nd, in its editorial article, anticipates some degree of comment and inquiry as to the candidature of A.S.P. members, in the parliamentary electoral campaign of N.S.W.

Let that anticipation be my justification for this effusion.

Re the advice of the aristocratic Italian to Massamillo, the revolutionary peasant, also that of the Virgin (?) Queen to her subjects; ditto the same advice by the Brooklyn journalist to the author you mention. I hold that in the light of history and human experience conjointly revealing the utter failure of political institutions and parliamentary representation as a means of redressing the disabilities of the masses, the advice was logical and sound.

Moreover, if memory serves me fair, Masaniello acted on it and took the direct and revolutionary method of winning a release from the iniquitously oppressive market dues and taxes levied on the products of the toilers on land and sea.

It is true, as you urge, that capitalists have ceased to be at all alarmed at Labor in politics, that is owing to their experience of the deterioration of principle and moral fibre of men in the sinks of political corruption, owing to the richly gilded baits of emoluments and gifts of office spread on the traps of human ambition.

Your splendid impeachment of all and sundry labor traitors, in both States and Commonwealth parliaments, is of itself an argumen tin favo rof the insidious and destructive nature of politics on the integrity of character in men.

Be it ever remembered that the principle and nature of the political machine is absolutely conservative. Let any measure, Lib., Lab., or Social be thrown in, it will come out quite immaculate of all its original beneficient intent and meaning, and useless for the purpose for which it was sent.

In short, the basic principle of all government is aggressive on, and restrictive of, the masses, and in the interests of the rulers against the ruled. And the application of the principle of tyranny to establish liberty is impossible as to "gather grapes from thorns," or figs from thistles.

Since you have quoted authorities advising the masses to keep out of politics, and conversely deduce the necessity of entering the field on behalf of Labor, permit me to quote a few authorities on the other side.

President Thomas Jefferson, who drafted the American Declaration of Independence, wrote: "I am convinced that those societies such as our (red skins) which live without government, enjoy in their general mass a greater degree of happiness than those who live under European governments. Among the former public opinion is in the place of law, and preserves morals as strongly as laws ever did anywhere; while amongst the latter, under government, they have divided their nations into two classes, Wolves and Sheep. I do not exaggerate, this is a true picture of Europe to-day." And permit me to say that in the America of to-day, under universal suffrage, and the political machines, the wolves are stronger and are ravaging and devouring the sheep more cruelly than the European wolves of Jefferson's time or ever since; and the greatest intellect America has yet produced, Emerson states, "The less government, the better the fewer laws, and the less confided power."

And America's greatest politician, Lincoln, also struck a warning note when he said:

"Politicians are men who have interests aside from the interests of the people, and who, to say the most of them, are taken as a class at least one long step removed from honest men; and I say this with the greater freedom, because I am myself a politician and none can regard it as personal."

One clause of your article states, "We are told that government has always been as it is to-day, and always will be." The correct statement would be the principle of government is ever the same—the principle of force. The final recourse of every government is coercion—to the death—and as Emerson states, "Behind the ballot box is concealed the bayonet and the bullet." and our comrades who cast votes into the ballot box for their comrade candidates, by complicity, sanction and support the institution of government and its force principle.

When force is eliminated from government it is bereft of power, and ceases to be government in any sense.

Every Labor party has utterly failed to give any measure of benefit to the workers—there is no instance where any industrial or social uplifting as a step to permanent benefit came out of political methods.

Are our comrades of higher moral attributes, more endowed with sincerity of purpose, or purity of motives than all those who have miserably failed; from John Burns to the latest traitor to our cause? Personally I never believed myself of such altitude in moral stature. To do so one should be like the Pharisee and thank all gods there may be he is not as other men.

I, as a member of the branch here, in this far distant State, have been elated by your Boanerges spirit of declamation against Lib. and Lab. political treachery: now we feel disconcerted that the men of the advance thought, the fine earnest spirits that have in the face of all opposition kept the standard of revolution afloat, should take a rearranged name (as we honestly think, we have here the hybrid, pseudo. Socialists who are seeking pelf in the dirty byways of sordid politics, we say, let them have the adulterated loaves and the putrid fishes of the Judas pay of those who use the workers as pawns in "playing the game," not worth the candle light of Socialist intelligence.

Yours for Revolution,

MONT. MILLER.

Beckford Estate, W.A.

A.S.P. News & Notes.

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIALIST PARTY.

Objective.—The social ownership with Democratic control of the means of Production. Distribution and Exchange.

General Secretary: J. W. ROCHE,
Headquarters: 115 Goulburn St., Sydney.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE.

The Ad. Council will meet on Dec.. 27 all branches are urged to send delegates.

J. W. ROCHE,
General Secretary,
115 Goulburn Street, Sydney.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL.

The Administrative Council met at Headquarters, 115 Goulburn-street, on December 13.

A letter was read from H. J. Cruckshank, in reference to the unity of Socialist bodies. The General Secretary was authorised to reply stating the steps being taken towards unity.

George Waite, Secretary I.W.W. Club, wrote asking for co-operation with the Anti-Coercion and Political Freedom League, in opposing the daily paper levy imposed on unionists. The General Secretary was authorised to attend next meeting of the League.

A letter was read from Ernst Haeckel, the German Scientist, in reference to his 80th birthday celebrations. The matter to be dealt with later.

The General Treasurer submitted a financial statement, re election expenses. The total income was £16 5s. 8d.; expenses £8; balance £8 5s. 8d. Resolved that the balance in hand be applied to the reduction of outstanding liability of Party.

Bulli and Woonona Branches application for endorsement was granted.

The General Secretary announced that the Unity Conference would meet again on Wed-Wednesday, January 7, 1914.

The Council then adjourned until Saturday, December 27.

SYDNEY.

The Branch is now progressing favorably, and funds are gradually being accumulated for the purpose of establishing permanent party rooms. Public halls, suitable for the purpose are scarce in the city, but as soon as we are able to find satisfactory rooms, it is our intention to acquire lecture hall and reading room, meanwhile we are going to start an economic class, if a sufficient number are interested. Members and others who are anxious to join either in economic or debating classes, should get into touch with the secretary or Comrades Riley or Jones. All Socialists should realise that the best way of rendering assistance is by becoming members of our organisation.

Successful meetings were held during the week. Comrades Jones and Brice spoke in the Domain on Sunday. A successful meeting was held in Market-street by Comrades Roche and Slade. Comrade Jones spoke in Park-street.

Tre next business meeting will be at Queen's Hall, on December 30. The Secretary will be at 115 Goulburn-street, Tuesdays, 7 p.m., and Saturdays, 4 p.m.

H. CHRISTOPHERSON, Secretary.

BALMAIN.

A good meeting was held at National street, Rozelle, on Saturday night, Sloan in chair, Griffen, Nelson and Brice speakers.

Sunday night's meeting was a boomer, Sloan (chairman). Brice dealt with militarism in a trenchant manner to a large and appreciative audience. Collection for Building Fund and sale of literature, good.

NEWTOWN.

The Election Campaign is over.

Our candidate ran third (there was only three in the field) as expected.

Good propaganda work was done during, the campaign, this is manifested by the frequent inquiries as to when and where the Newtown Branch meets.

During the campaign Mr. Stevens, the Liberal candidate, said he would like to meet Comrade Jones in a debate on Socialism. The matter has been taken up by the committee, and there is good reasons to expect the debate to take place in the near future.

We have finished up in a sound financial position, showing a balance on the right side of the book, thanks to those who assisted.

Received for "Campaign Fund": amount already acknowledged, £1 15s.: Lewis, 1s.: Bannerman, 1s.; S. Lee 1s, Thirroul, 5s.; Pike, 1s. 6d.; Page, 2s.; total, £2 5s 6d. £2 10s. 6d.

RAY EVERITT.
Sec. Campaign Committee.

BROKEN HILL.

Most of us, who have given even a little time to studying Socialism, were of the opinion, that the Labor Parliamentary party, of parasites and opportunists, constituted the greatest menace to the Socialist movement. We were of the opinion that a middle-class party, with purely capitalist aims, which had laid itself out to deliberately chloroform the working-class, and consistently set in motion the repressive machinery of capitalist law against the working class, could merit nothing but implacable hostility, from any man conscious of the class struggle. We believed that no Socialist could endorse a party guilty of the militarist laws, arbitration, and even an official manifesto calling on the citizens of Sydney to scab.

But lo! We have been mistaken: for there arises one Bob Ross (of Melbourne), an intellectual man and editor of a Socialist newspaper withal, and tells us to vote Labor—and Australia will cheer!

Two slimy articles from this individual appeared in the columns of the official organ of Labor opportunism ("Barrier Daily Perjury") of November 29 and December 25, urging the workers to vote for Jabez Wright, Labor candidate for Willyama.

In one of these remarkable effusions he says, "There is no Socialist candidate, in the sense of an avowed nominee of the Socialist movement, and in the absence of such, the man to vote for is the man for the organised movement of the working class." Grovelling flattery of the Labor candidate and dope worthy of the veriest Labor fakir characterise the articles throughout.

At a meeting of this branch, held on Sunday, December 7th, the following resolution was carried unanimously: "That this branch condemns the action of R. S. Ross and the stand which he has made for the continuance of the legalised robbery of the working class, the jailing of the workers, and the garnisheeing of the wages of those who withhold their commodity, labor-power, from sale, in a body to enhance its price, and secure better conditions. We are also of the opinion that the man who tries to prevent strikes and votes to make it a crime to strike, and jails the workers who assert their manhood by striking, is as bad, or worse than, the man who goes in to break a strike."

Those are the views of Barrier Socialists, and we wish to make them known to Socialists in all other parts of the Commonwealth.

Yours for revolt,

D. HEALY,
Hon. Secretary.

Debate.

RATIONALISM V. CHRISTIANITY.

A public debate took place at the Protestant Hall, Sydney, between the Rev. E. Digges La Touche, Litt. D. Donnellan Lecturer at University of Dublin, 1911-12, for Christianity, and Mr. Wyndham S. Heathcote, B.A., Oxon, Recently Rector of Bundaberg, Q., for Rationalism. The debate was held on Thursday and Friday evenings, Dec. 11 and 12, the subject being "The Verity of Christ's Resurrection."

The debate was opened by Dr. La Touche who maintained that the resurrection of Christ was a historical fact admitted by leading Rationalists as well as Churchmen.

Mr. Heathcote submitted that the evidence in support of the resurrection story would not be admitted in a court in any civilized country. Such a miracle was contrary to the universal belief in cause and effect, and there was no historical evidence in support of the story of the resurrection. He pointed out that according to the New Testament the earth was darkened and the graves opened and gave up their dead at the time, which, if true, would have been noted by every historian of the time. There was no mention of any such happenings by the writers of the time.

The debate evoked much interest, and was keenly contested, but judging from the way Mr. Heathcote's argument was received by Sydneysiders there is a good deal of scepticism as to the truth of the resurrection.

Dr. La Touche did as well as a man could with his side of the story, but he seemed to blush a good deal when making some of his statements.

ELECTION CAMPAIGN FUND.

Amounts received, W.H., 2., A. Friend £1. Total, £16 5s. 8d.

There died the other day, at the age of 73, a worker who had been 41 years on the staff of the "Echo," and "Sydney Morning Herald." He was a man of wide literary knowledge, and according to the "Herald" was not only an authority on English, but was also conversant with Greek, Latin, and French. He also possessed a fund of general knowledge that served to make him a good proof reader, a position which he occupied in the "Herald" establishment for most of the 41 years. Equipped with more than the average capacity though he was, John Doyle lacked the profit-hunting instinct, so he remained poor while his employers with little or no attainments grew wealthy. In 41 years Doyle must have seen profits mounting higher and higher, but there is no evidence that he ever inquired where they went. His life was passed like that of tens of thousands of wage slaves who practically die in harness in the service of others who are far beneath them in mental capacity.

CHRISTMAS TREE AND DANCE.

The International Socialist Club will give a dance and Christmas Tree at Leigh-house Castlereagh street, Sydney, on Boxing Day, December 26th. Tickets 1/6 single and 2/6 double. Children free. Free toys for the children.

Tickets and all particulars obtainable from the Club Secretary, who will also be please to receive donations towards the children's toys.

No tickets will be sold at the doors.

O. BLANC, Secretary.
274 Pitt-street, Sydney.

PRESS AND MAINTENANCE FUND.

Already Acknowledged, £75 7s. 10d. M. Sch., 2s. 6d., Club Social, 6s. 3d., Chas. Madsen, Q'land., 5s. Total £76 1s. 7d.

LITERATURE DEPARTMENT.

Woman and the Social Problem (May Wood Simons)	1d
The Growth of Socialism (Debs)	1d
From Revolution to Revolution (Herron)	1d
Revolutionary Unionism (Debs)	1d
Wage, Labor and Capital (Marx)	1d
The Man Under the Machine (Simons)	1d
The Mission of the Working Class (Vail)	1d
Prison Labor, (Debs)	1d
Parable of the Water Tank (Bellamy)	1d
Why I Am a Socialist (Herron)	1d
What Life Means to Me (London)	1d
Science and Socialism (La Monte)	1d
Unity and Victory (Debs)	1d
Where We Stand (Spargo)	1d
Why a Workingman Should Be a Socialist (Wilshire)	1d
Socialist Party and Working Class (Debs)	1d
You and Your Job (Sandburg)	1d
Liberty (Eugene V. Debs)	1d
Class Unionism (Debs)	1d
An Appeal to the Young (Kropotkin)	1d
The Issue (Eugene V. Debs)	1d
Industrial Unionism (Debs)	1d
Industrial Union Methods (Trautmann)	1d
Forces That Make for Socialism (John Spargo)	1d
Craft Unionism (Eugene V. Debs)	1d
The Scab (Jack London)	1d
Woman and Socialism (May Walden)	1d
Revolution (Jack London)	1d
Useful Work v. Useless Toil (Morris)	1d
The Tramp (Jack London)	1d
Marx on Cheapness (translated by La Monte)	1d
Danger Ahead	1d
Debs and Russell	1d

Postage ½d. each extra. 8d. per doz. post paid

International Socialist Club,

274 Pitt Street, Sydney.

Open daily for Members and Visitors from other parts, from 11 a.m. till 11 p.m.

Membership Fee: 5s. per Quarter.

Best Socialist Library in the State.

Debating Class meets on Tuesdays, at 8 p.m.

Members of the A.S.P. and S.L.P. are cordially invited to attend.

The next Monthly Meeting will be held on Sunday, Dec. 14. A full attendance of members is desired.

O. BLANC, Secretary.

WANTED, SUB-GETTERS.—There are still a number of Sub-Getters wanted to push the "International."

A SIDE LINE.—Uncommercial travellers wanting a side line for country towns should send 8d for a bundle of "The International."

The War Trust.

Cabinet Ministers, Members of Parliament, Bishops, and Peers as Shareholders.

Alliance of Church, State, Press, and Jingoes. The scandal of the age.!!

Reprinted in Leaflet Form.
Handy for Propaganda.
100 Copies, 1/- Postage, 3d extra

—ORDER NOW—

ALSO—

THE INVASION BOGEY.
6d. Per Dozen Post Free.

Address:—

THE MANAGER,
"International Socialist"

Printed and published by Henry Edmund Holland, for the Proprietors, the International Socialist Club, at 115 Goulburn Street, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.

National Library of Australia http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page12366997